



**The University of Georgia
College of Education
Program of Educational Leadership**

**School Law
EDUL 6010
EDUL 6011
EDUL 6012
EDUL 6990**

**NEGARESA/UGA Collaborative Partnership L5 Add On Program
Spring 2006**

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Conferences: At mutual convenience; please schedule in advance

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Course Description:

Examines legal principles applicable to public education, the legal structure of the public school system, and legal problems related to teacher and student personnel.

Course Objectives:

- Develop an awareness of American governance systems, sources of the law, and the role of the courts in American education.
- Explore legal principles, ideology, and jurisprudential maxims such as “we are a nation of laws, not men.”
- Explore constitutional principles and their application to the public school context.
- Review court decisions, statutory law, and administrative regulations concerning public education.
- Review federal and state constitutions.
- Converse and reflect on legal principles and their application to public schools.
- Engage in legal research, and present and debate their findings on legal problems related to public schools.

Assigned Readings:

LaMorte, M. (2005) *School Law: Cases and concepts*. (8th Ed.)
Boston:Pearson.

ISBN: 0-205-41913-5

The Federal Constitution, Georgia educational statutes

Supplemental reading provided by the instructor

Class Meetings:

January 9 thru May 1, 2006 (Final Exam On Line)

Attendance Policy:

All students are expected to attend all classes during the semester.
Absences from class must be with permission of the instructor.

University Honor Code and Academic Honesty Policy:

All academic work must meet the standards contained in "A Culture of Honesty." Each student is responsible to inform themselves about those standards before performing any academic work.

Plagiarized work will result in a U/F for the course.

Please see <http://uga.edu/ovpi/index.htm> for the UGA policy on Academic Honesty and <http://www.gradsch.uga.edu/> for other applicable rules and policies.

Grading/Course Assignments:

The following criteria will be used for a grade in this course:

(2) Relevant articles chosen by the student	20 pts.
Active participation in reading, discussion and activities	25 pts.
*Individualized school law project	25 pts.
Midterm	10 pts. (On Line)
Final Exam	20 pts. (On Line)

*Research project on an educational issue of own choice; 8-10 double spaced pages. Prefer APA style, but more interested in the content. Grade is based on evidence that the student made a good faith effort under the time given and is there evidence that the student learned something.

Technology:

Each student will incorporate technology into the course. Applications may include the use of word-processing, fax, email, voice mail, the World Wide Web for accessing information for class assignments, and others based on individual student needs. All products selected by the student must be typed in 12 point standard fonts.

Course Evaluations:

Students will evaluate the course by completing an anonymous survey (On line survey is available) and by providing written critique of the course identifying strengths and listing recommendations for improvement.

Topics:

- 1. Introduction and overview.**
- 2. Governance structures and the legal system.**
- 3. School funding litigation: equity and politics.**
- 4. Compulsory school attendance.**
- 5. Church and State relations.**
- 6. Curriculum censorship.**
- 7. Student freedom of expression.**
- 8. Student discipline and due process.**
- 9. Corporal punishment.**
- 10. Mandatory reporting statutes for abuse and neglect.**
- 11. School searches.**
- 12. Special education law.**
- 13. Contracts.**
- 14. Teacher freedom of expression.**
- 15. Teachers' private lives.**
- 16. Employment discrimination.**
- 17. School desegregation.**
- 18. Torts.**
- 19. Professional responsibility and ethics.**
- 20. Other legal issues selected by students.**

Course Required Activities/Assignments:

Students are expected to attend all classes. Writing assignments will consist of the following listed. Students are expected to read all of the materials assigned and be prepared to participate in class discussions and group projects. This class will rely heavily on student participation; excessive absences will be factored in the final grade. All late assignments will be penalized.

Departure from the listed assignments must be with the permission of the instructor.

1. Mid term exam – Group test- on line
2. Final Exam – comprehensive written exam – on line
3. Relevant articles – 2 selected by student
4. Active participation includes preparation for all classes, presentation of assigned cases, discussions, and class activities
5. Individualized school law project on the topic of own choice

NOTE: The instructor has the right to make additions and deletions as deemed appropriate for the course.

DATE	TOPIC	Assignment DUE
<i>January 9</i>	INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW How the law works Constitutional law exercise	Chapter 1 S: 1-32
<i>January 16-No class</i> <i>January 23</i>	Religion, schools, and the State	Ch 1-Cont. Ch 2 S: 35-47
<i>January 30</i>	Search and seizure	T: 158-170 S: 116-119
<i>February 6</i>	School desegregation	Chapter 5
<i>February 13</i>	Special Education Law with Dr. Bill Swan /Select team for Mid Term	Online FAPE, IDEA, IEP
<i>February 20</i>	Students and the Law Due Process Discipline	T: 132-136; 171-190 S: 67-110
<i>February 27</i>	Students and the Law Due Process Discipline Free Speech Code of Ethics – Web Based Test*	Continued1st article due T: 105-130 S: 29-58
<i>March 6</i>	Contracts Tort Copyright Laws MID TERM – Assignment of cases	S: 131-149 S: 193-195 S: 66
<i>March 13</i>	Spring Break – No class	
<i>March 20</i>	Mid Term DUE – 2 cases Educators and School District Liability Reporting Child Abuse	Ch. 8 S: 116
<i>March 27</i>	Teachers and the Law Equal protection	Ch. 4
<i>April 3</i>	No class-work on project	
<i>April 10</i>	School Finance NCLB	Ch. 7 2nd Article Due
<i>April 17</i>	Special Education – Individuals with Disabilities – Major cases	Ch. 6
<i>April 24</i>	Sexual Harassment FINAL EXAM OPEN ONLINE	S: 121-130
<i>May 1</i>	Present project	Project

NOTES AND CHANGES: